FIRE SUPPORT COMBAT TRAINERS

"THE WEREWOLVES"

HEY, BATTALION COMMANDER!

- **EMPOWER YOUR SUBORDINATES-- ESPECIALLY MAJORS**

- **ELEVATE THE STATUS AND RESPONSIBILITY OF LIEUTENANTS**

- **GET INTO OUR DOCTRINE-- YOUR SUBORDINATES WILL FOLLOW!**

READINESS FOR COMBAT

"Unlike other players on the combined arms team, American field artillery units were effective performers early in the war.... American artillery doctrine called for centralized control with decentralized execution and the use of tremendous concentrations of indirect fire.... In comparison to infantrymen and tankers, artillerymen found the transition from peacetime theory to battlefield conditions less taxing."

C e

Michael D. Doubler

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

MANEUVER CDR'S GUIDANCE FOR FS

- CDR'S GUIDANCE DOES NOT TIE FIRES TO THE SCHEME OF MANEUVER
- TF CDR'S DIRECT UTILIZATION OF ASSETS THEY DO NOT HAVE
- CDR'S CONTINUE MISSION WHEN CONDITIONS FOR THE CLOSE FIGHT ARE NOT MET

TRAINING FOCUS

- CDR'S SHOULD USE DOCTRINAL REF (FM 6-71, FM 101-5, FM 3-09.21) IN DEVELOPING FS GUIDANCE
- DEVELOP A GUIDANCE FORMAT FOR YOUR MANEUVER COMMANDER

RECEIVE COMMANDER'S GUIDANCE

- **MANEUVER COMMANDER'S GUIDANCE**
  - **FOCUS FIRES ON DECISIVE MANEUVER OPERATIONS**
  - **DEVELOP FEWER TASKS NOT MORE: PRINCIPLE OF MASS**
  - **SPECIFY PRIORITY OF FIRES AND CRITERIA TO SHIFT**
  - **PHILOSOPHY OF *FIRE* AND *MANEUVER***
  - **TIE FIRE SUPPORT TASKS TO MANEUVER ACTION**
  - **ADDRESS SPECIAL MUNITIONS: CAS, SMOKE, CPH, FASCAM, ILLUM**
  - **USE DOCTRINAL EFFECTS: SUPPRESS, NEUTRALIZE, DESTROY**
  - **C FFECTS BY VEH**

***WRONG*: "DESTROY ALL AT-5s IN ZONE"**

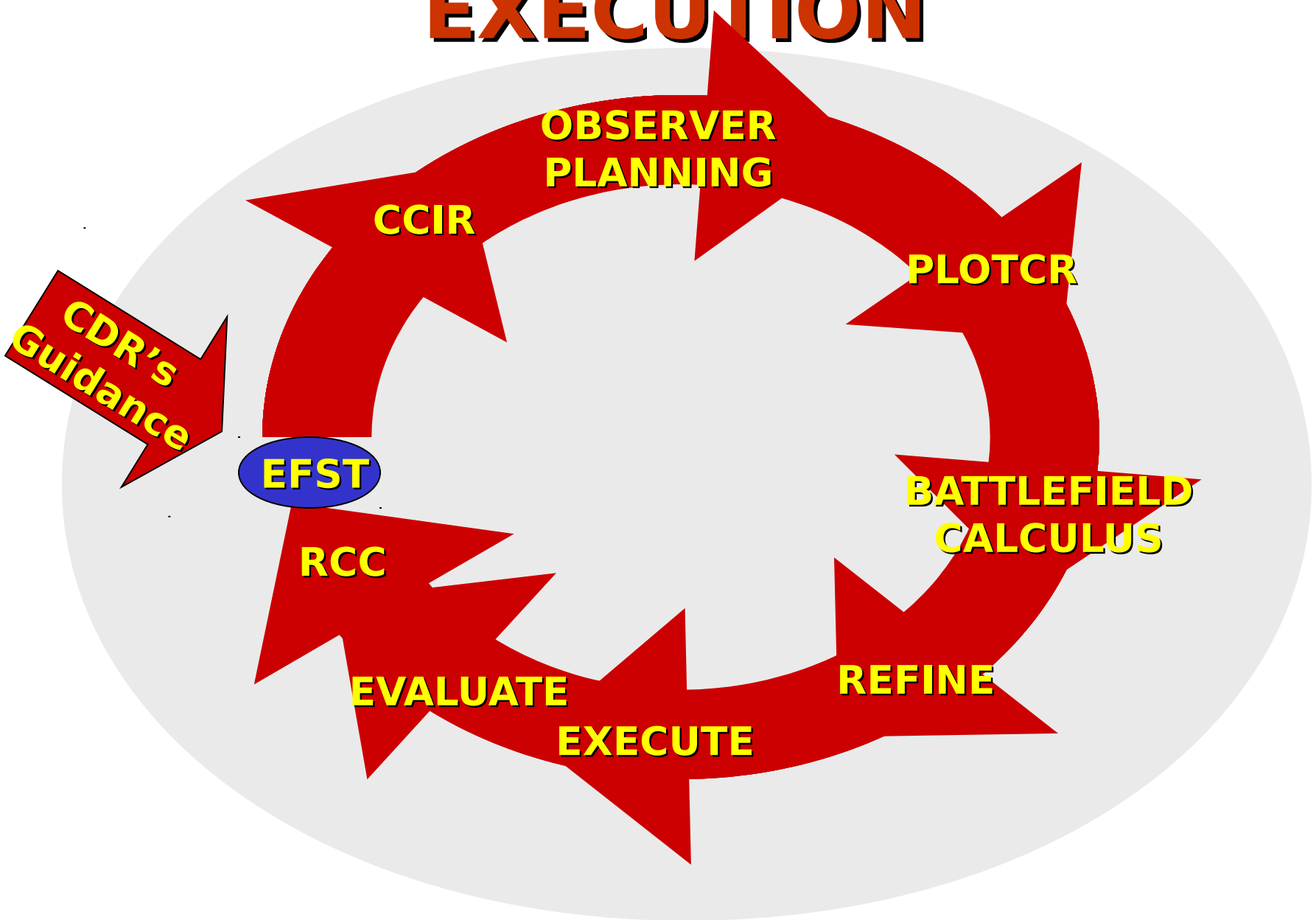
VS

***RIGHT*: "SUPPRESS AT-5s VICINITY HILL 760 TO SUPPORT A COMPANY MANEUVER TO SBF2"**

ESSENTIAL FIRE SUPPORT TASK (EFST)

A TASK FOR FIRE SUPPORT TO ACCOMPLISH THAT IS REQUIRED TO SUPPORT A COMBINED ARMS OPERATION. FAILURE TO ACHIEVE AN EFST MAY REQUIRE THE COMMANDER TO ALTER HIS TACTICAL OR OPERATIONAL PLAN. EXPRESSED IN TERMS OF TASK, PURPOSE, METHOD, AND EFFECTS.

EFST DEVELOPMENT AND EXECUTION



EFST QUESTIONS

- **What is the task and purpose?**
- **What effects do we want to achieve?**
- **How will the detect asset get to its observation location (mode and route)? How long does it take to move there? When must it leave? Does it require security and log support? From whom, when and where?**
- **Is the asset detecting the target the same as the one tracking it and initiating fires on it? If so, what is the trigger to attack? If not, who is detecting, who is tracking, who is initiating fires, and how is the information passed amongst them?**
- **Is there a backup designated to detect, track and initiate fires? If so, ask the above questions about the backup. If not, why not? What asset/unit will attack the target?**

EFST QUESTIONS

- **Who will assess effects? From where? When?**
- **How will BDA get reported and to whom? Who will make a re-attack decision? When is the latest desired effects can be achieved through re-attack and still fulfill the purpose of attacking the target?**
- **How will the results of attacking this target get disseminated to the maneuver unit whose scheme of maneuver is affected by the capabilities this target possesses? [Command and fire support channels?]**

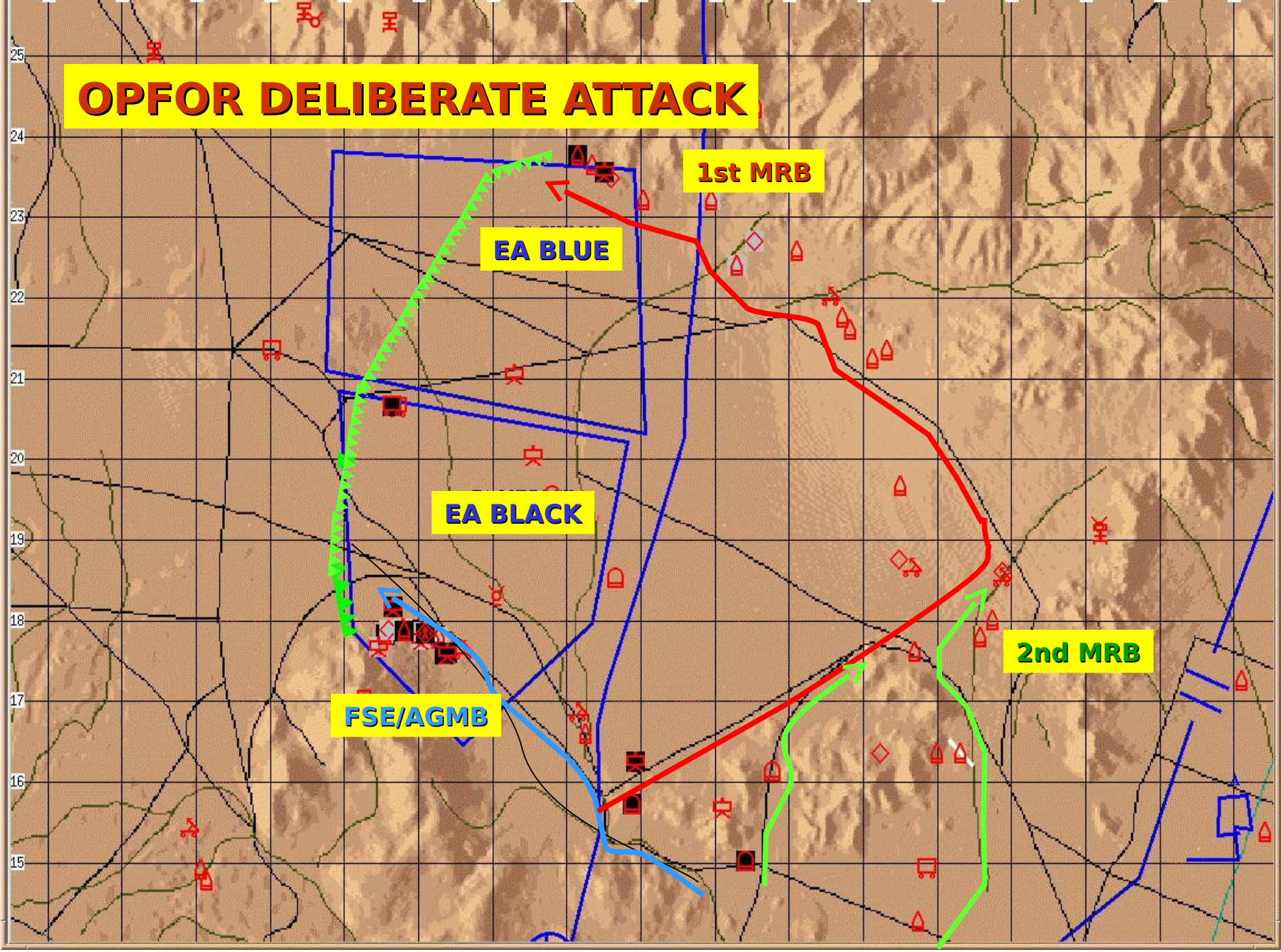
OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

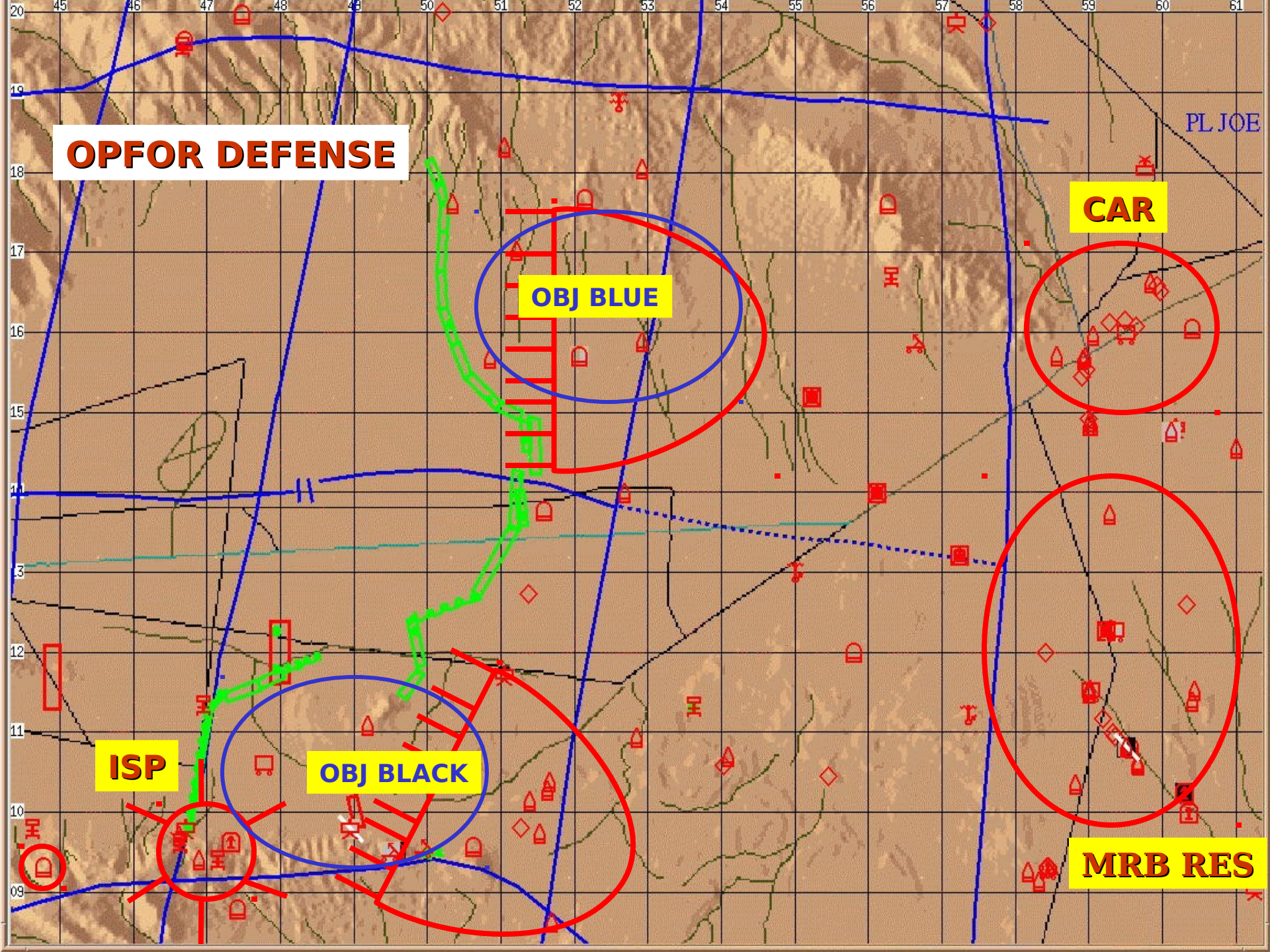
SEE THE ENEMY

- UNDERSTANDING ENEMY IN TIME, SPACE & PURPOSE
- ATTACK WHERE TERRAIN OFFERS GREATEST POTENTIAL

TRAINING FOCUS

- STUDY AND TEST OPFOR DOCTRINE
- INVITE OPFOR CDR TDY FOR BRIEFING
- CONDUCT A TARGETING MAPEX


OPFOR DELIBERATE ATTACK
1st MRB
EA BLUE
EA BLACK
2nd MRB
FSE/AGMB


OPFOR DEFENSE
PL JOE
CAR
OBJ BLUE
ISP
OBJ BLACK
MRB RES

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

TOP DOWN - BOTTOM UP TARGETING

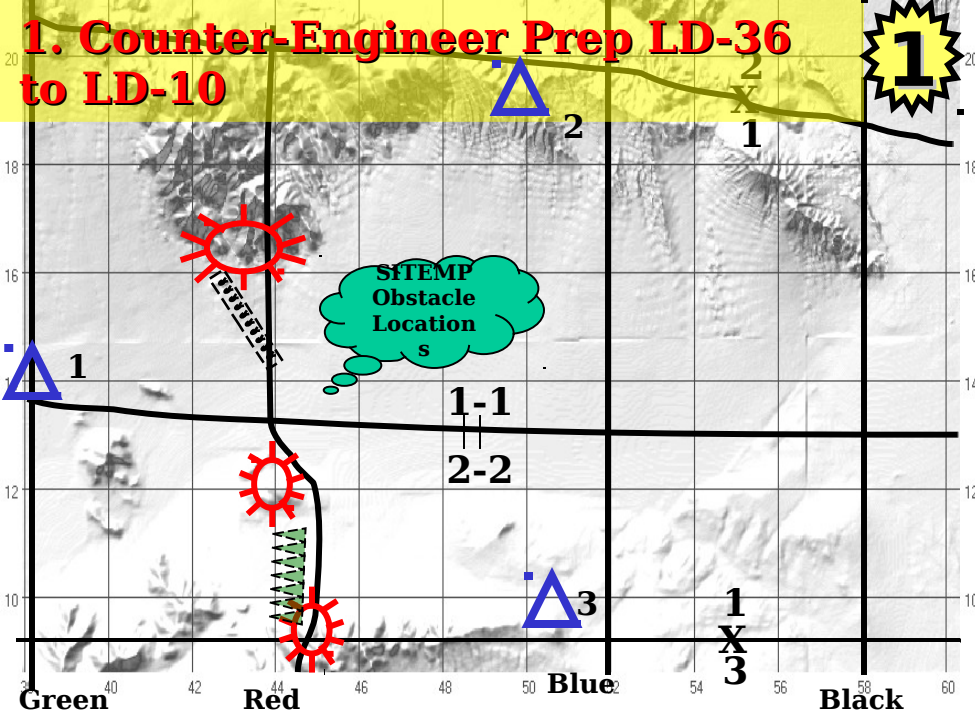
- BDE FIRE PLANNING INCOMPLETE, UNCLEAR
- TF FSOs DON'T UNDERSTAND BDE PLAN
- TF FSOs *CREATE* VICE *REFINE* TARGETS

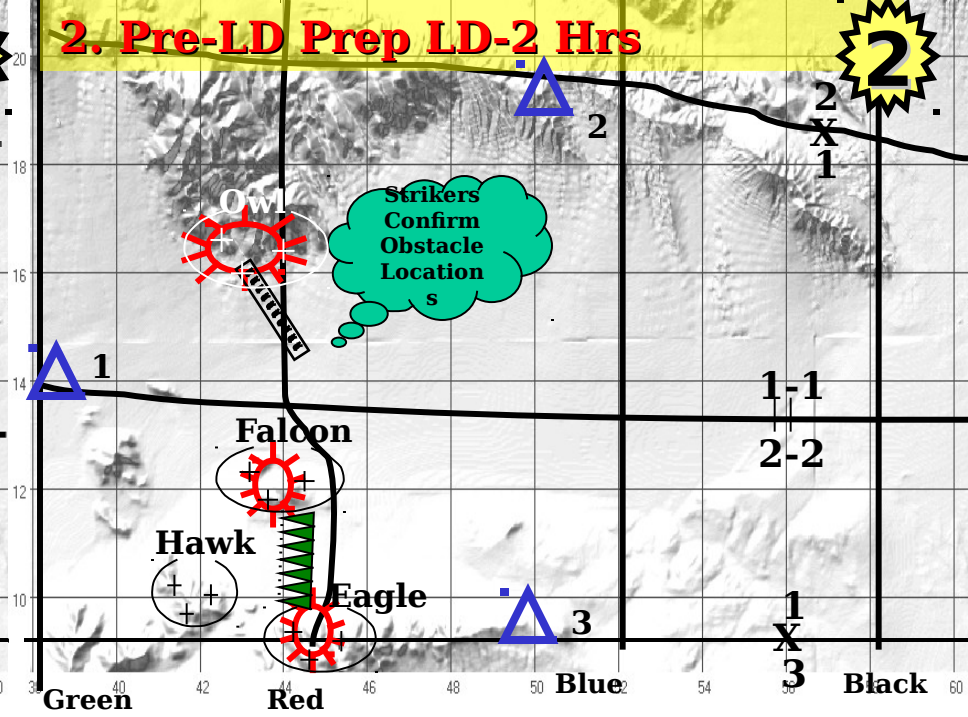
TRAINING FOCUS

- DEVELOP MISSION TARGETING SOP
- CONDUCT TARGETING EXERCISE
- INTEGRATE INTO FTX/LFX
- TF'S REFINE BDE TARGETS BASED ON TF SCHEME OF MANEUVER
- SKETCHES FOR FS PLANS VICE BIG ANNEXES

ILLUSTRATED FIREPLANNING

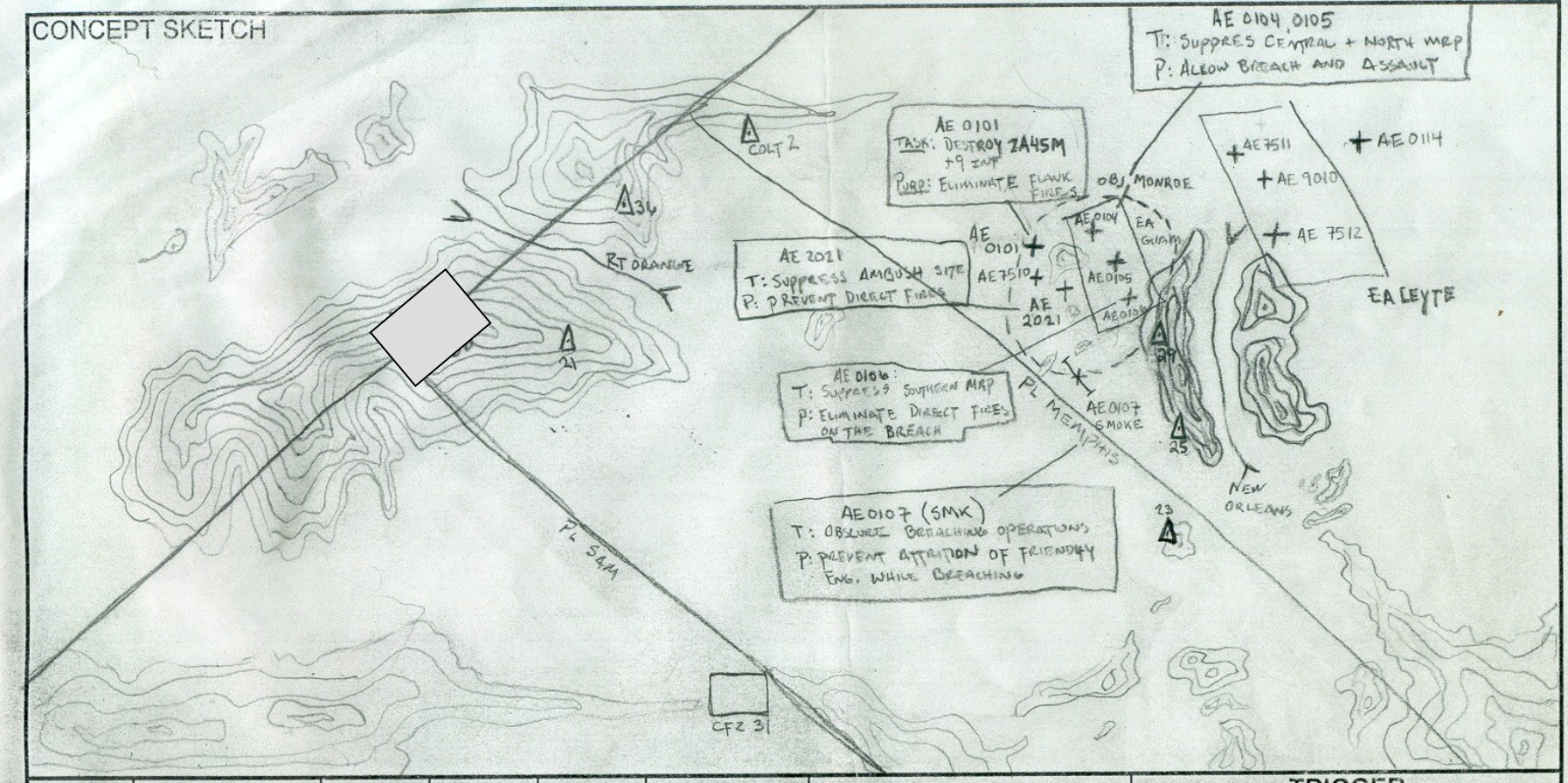
SEQ	EVENT/TRIGGER	TASK	PURPOSE	METHOD	EFFECTS	OBS	FSCM
		EVENT #1 SUPPORTING DATA					
		EVENT #1 SUPPORTING DATA					
		EVENT #2 SUPPORTING DATA					
		EVENT #2 SUPPORTING DATA					





SEQ	EVENT/TRIGGER	TASK	PURPOSE	METHOD	EFFECTS	OBS	FSCM
1	Counter- Engineer Prep as acquired	Disrupt ENGR Prep, Limit Obst Emplacement	Deny EN Free Man, Reduce Size, Number of Obst, Gain Intel	Base Engagement, Btry 3 DP ICM, Illum at night	3 x D7 Dest, 4 Trks Dest, 30 Dismounts Dest	Striker 1,2,3	CFL P L Green
1	Disrupt EN Strongpoint	Locate ISP, Disrupt ISP Prep	Reduce # of INF in ISP; Gain Intel; Reduce overhead cover	Btry 3 VT; Illum at night	30 INF Dest	Striker 1,2,3	CFL P L Green
2	Pre- LD Prep/ LD -2 Hrs	Destroy ISPs; Destroy AT5 ambush sites.	Allow Free Mvr of SBF and Breach Forces	MLRS 3 Rkts/Tgt (20 Tgts); BN 3 DP ICM / Tgt (10 Tgts) 155: Eagle; MLRS: Hawk, Falcon, Owl	4 At5s Dest; 50 INF Dest	Striker 1,2,3	CFL P L Green

CONCEPT SKETCH



OP	GRID	ALTITUDE	PRI	ALT	TASK	PURPOSE	TRIGGER	
							OCCUPY	DISPLACE
23	540018	520	A-2 [redacted] w/ Pl 147 move to		ACQUIRE INF STRONG POINT	SUPPRESS ENEMY AT SYSTEMS + DISMOUNTS TO PREVENT DIRECT FIRES	SCOUTS OCCUPY SCOUT OP's	UNITS CONSOLIDATE TO ATTACK OBJ BOSSIER
25	552041	660	A-2 [redacted]	[redacted]	ACQUIRE INF ST POINT + S. MRP	SUPPRESSION TO PREVENT DIRECT FIRES ON FRIENDLY ELEMENTS	"	"
21	458050	880	A-1	0/0 move	ACQUIRE OBSTACLES AT-S + MAIN DEFENSIVE POSITIONS	SUPPRESSION; ADJ SMK TO ALLOW ENG. TO BREACH	"	"
36	456074	900	A-1		AQUIRE OBSTACLES + DEF. POSITIONS	SUPPRESS MRP. ADJ SMK TO ALLOW ENG TO BREACH	"	"
19	545069	750	TFLite		ACQUIRE AMBUSH SITES + ENEMY POSITIONS	SUPPRESS AT SYSTEM; ADJ SMK TO PREVENT DIRECT FIRES ON FRIENDLY ELEMENTS	TM LITE IN PLACE	"

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

OBSERVATION PLANNING

- OP ESTABLISHED BY CO CDR/CO FSO W/O REGARD TO BDE OR TF TGTS
- OBSERVATION PLAN NOT LINKED TO EFSTs
- OBSERVATION PLAN NOT CONSOLIDATED

TRAINING FOCUS

- TF FSO'S CREATE CENTRALIZED OBS PLANS THAT SUPPORT TRIGGERS AND TARGETS
- OBS PLAN SHOULD PROVIDE REDUNDANT OBSERVATION OF EFSTs
- UTILIZE TERRABASE SOFTWARE TO VALIDATE OBS OF TGTs, TRIGGERS, AND COMMO WITH OBS
- DECONFLICT OBS (BRT,COLTS,Co FSO,TF SCOUTS)
- PLOT CR (PURPOSE, LOC, OBS, TRIGGER, COMMO, AND REDUNDANCY)

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

TARGET LOCATION

- OBSERVERS DO NOT CONSISTENTLY LOCATE TARGETS TO EIGHT-DIGIT PRECISION
- OBSERVERS NOT GIVEN ADEQUATE OBS DEVICES OR ARE NOT TRAINED TO USE THE DEVICES THEY HAVE

TRAINING FOCUS

- CREATE A TARGETING RANGE WHERE OBS MUST
  LOCATE TGTs WITHIN 100M
- OBS SHOULD PROCESS TGTS ON THE MOVE WITH
  "DEGRADED" DEVICES
- INSURE OBS DEVICES AND ASSOCIATED

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

FIRE MISSION PROCESSING

- EXCESSIVE VOICE COMMUNICATIONS DURING EXECUTION
- NO SOP FOR VOICE OR DIGITAL MISSION PROCESSING
- USE OF ONE VOICE NET = ONE MISSION AT A TIME; OBSERVERS CAN'T GET IN & GIVE UP

TRAINING FOCUS

- DEVELOP A FIRE MISSION SOP
- FORCE DIGITAL FIRE ORDERS FROM BATTALION
- DECENTRALIZE MISSIONS--MORE BATTERY MSNs
- GIVE GUIDANCE AND TRUST SUBORDINATES

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

CAS INTEGRATION

- BDE MDMP DOES NOT FOCUS CAS EFFECTIVELY AGAINST ENEMY
- BDE'S DO NOT HAVE EFFECTIVE BATTLE DRILLS TO EMPLOY CAS
- ACA'S DO NOT FACILITATE SIMULTANEOUS ATTACK BY CAS AND ARTILLERY

TRAINING FOCUS

- DEVELOP SOP'S WHICH ADDRESS SEAD, ACAs, AND CAS MARKING ROUNDS
- INCORPORATE CAS INTO LFXS
- DON'T LET THE NTC BE THE FIRST TIME ALO

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

PALADIN MOVEMENT

- BNs USE SINGLE PAs FOR ENTIRE BATTALION
- PALADINS BECOME DESYNCHRONIZED WITH MANEUVER
- NO DST TO TRIGGER BATTERY MOVEMENT

TRAINING FOCUS

- INSURE MOVEMENT IS TIED TO MANEUVER PLAN
  - DEFENSE: SURVIVABILITY MOVES, PAAs
  - OFFENSE: MOVEMENT TIED TO MANEUVER, SERIES OF PAAs, MOVING MISSIONS
- INSIST ON PARTICIPATING IN MANEUVER

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT

- UNITS DON'T MAINTAIN ACCOUNTABILITY OF AMMO OR REQUISITION NECESSARY AMMUNITION
- AMMUNITION REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT ADDRESSED DURING THE MISSION ANALYSIS

TRAINING FOCUS

- UNITS SHOULD INTEGRATE "PAPER" AMMUNITION INTO TRAINING TO PRACTICE REALISTIC AMMO ACCOUNTABILITY, REQUISITION AND RESUPPLY
- ROUTINELY DETERMINE AMMO REQUIREMENTS DURING THE MISSION ANALYSIS BASED ON FS TASKS

EFST: DESTROY ONE MRP

BATTLE CALCULUS:

MRP CONSISTS OF 3/1
54 ROUNDS DPICM REQUIRED TO DESTROY 1 x T80
18 ROUNDS DPICM REQUIRED TO DESTROY 1 x BMP
ROUNDS:
54 DPICM (DESTROY 1 x T80)
18 DPICM (DESTROY 1 x BMP)
18 DPICM (DESTROY 1 x BMP)
18 DPICM (DESTROY 1 x BMP)
108 DPICM (DESTROY 1 x MRP)
REPEATED 3 x TIMES = 324 DPICM
ANTICIPATED RANGE TO TARGET= 16 km
324 x RED BAG REQUIRED
TIME:
RATE OF FIRE = 2 x RDS / 1st MINUTE, 1 x RD EACH ADDITIONAL MINUTE
FIRED BY 6 x GUNS = 53 MINUTES

BATTLE ALGEBRA:

MRP CONSISTS OF 3/1
54 ROUNDS DPICM REQUIRED TO DESTROY 1 x T80
18 ROUNDS DPICM REQUIRED TO DESTROY 1 x BMP
ROUNDS:
54 DPICM (DESTROY 1 x T80)
18 DPICM (DESTROY 1 x BMP)
18 DPICM (DESTROY 1 x BMP)
18 DPICM (DESTROY 1 x BMP)
108 DPICM (DESTROY 1 x MRP)
REPEATED 3 x TIMES = 324 DPICM
ANTICIPATED RANGE TO TARGET= 16 km
324 x RED BAG REQUIRED

CONSUMER MATH:

108 DPICM RQUIRED TO KILL 1 x MRP

BEER MATH:

“WE HAVE LOTS OF ENEMY, WE NEED LOTS OF BULLETS”

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

REINFORCING BATTALION

- DS BN'S DO NOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE REINFORCING BN IAW DOCTRINE
- DS AND REINFORCING BN OFTEN CONDUCT SEPARATE MDMP'S
- REINFORCING LNOs / CDRs BYPASS THE BN FDC

TRAINING FOCUS

- INTEGRATE REINFORCING BN INTO HOME STATION TRAINING
- CONDUCT A MUTUAL ORDERS PROCESS WHERE BOTH HQ'S PRODUCE ONE OF EVERYTHING

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

LIGHT BATTERY / TF AT NTC

- COMMAND AND SUPPORT RELATIONSHIPS UNCLEAR
- BC AND FSO DUTIES UNCOORDINATED
- NTC VS JRTC (METT-T CONSIDERATIONS)
- LACK HIGHER HQs EMPHASIS IN PREPARATION

TRAINING FOCUS

- TREAT THIS AS A PRIORITY MISSION!
- CONDUCT EXEVAL FOR BATTERY AND FS TEAMS
- CERTIFY FOR LIVE FIRE
- EMPHASIS ON TLP (BTRY) AND MDMP (TF FSO)

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE NTC

LIVE FIRE INCIDENTS

- INADEQUATE LEADER CHECKS
- VOICE MISSION PROCESSING NEEDS PRACTICE
- SPECIAL MUNTIONS NEED PRACTICE
- DATA BASE MANAGEMENT INCONSISTENT
- SECONDARY CHECKS INCONSISTENT
- FDCs NOT STRESS TESTED
- MULTIPLE ROUND MISSIONS vs LOADING
- ELEVATION AND CHARGE ERRORS

TRAINING FOCUS

- PUT RIGOR IN CERTIFICATION PROCESS
- MAKE LEADERS CERTIFY ON SUPERVISION TASKS
- TRAIN VOICE AND DIGITAL
- DEVELOP A FIRE MISSION SOP
- TRAIN FIRE PLAN EXECUTION - NOT SINGLE

THINGS TO TRAIN ON

- LIVE FIRE SCHEME OF FIRES
- JUMP TOC/MSU
- LOSS OF MET--REGISTRATIONS
- DEGRADED OPs
- SPECIAL MUNITIONS (COPPERHEAD, M825, RAP, FASCAM)
- CAS INTEGRATION
- SAFETY CERTIFICATION
- AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT

DEDICATE TIME TO TRAIN OFFICERS

HOME STATION PREPARATION

- **EXECUTE A FIRE PLAN INCLUDING SIMULTANEOUS MISSIONS TIED TO MANEUVER TRIGGERS WITH REALISTIC FRICTION ADDED (ie. OBSERVER ADJUSTMENTS).**
- **EMPLACE AND SUSTAIN A 1000 METER SMOKE SCREEN; HAND OFF SUSTAINMENT BETWEEN BATTERIES.**
- **EXECUTE SEAD FOR AIR INSERTIONS.**
- **EXECUTE SEAD / MARK FOR CAS.**
- **EXECUTE EMERGENCY MISSIONS OUTSIDE FIRING AREAS LINKED TO MANEUVER OPERATIONS.**

TRAIN TO EXECUTE A FIRE PLAN IN SUPPORT OF MANEUVER!

FSCOORD TRAINING

- KNOW YOUR UNIT-- FFIR
- KNOW THE ENEMY-- PIR
- SEE THE TERRAIN-- TARGETING
- SEE THE BATTLE IN TIME AND SPACE-- SCHEME OF FIRES
- VISUALIZE CHANGES-- RUNNING ESTIMATE
- TRAIN AS YOU WILL FIGHT-- MTP IRREGULAR SHAPED TARGET OR FIRES IN SUPPORT OF A BREACH??

FOCUS EFSTs -- CAN'T DO EVERYTHING

ROLE OF THE FSCOORD

- ATTEND BDE MISSION ANALYSIS BRIEF
- PARTICIPATE IN BDE WARGAME
- APPROVE BRIGADE TARGET PRODUCTS
- REQUIRE BOTTOM UP REFINEMENT
- DEVELOP SCHEME OF FIRES
- PARTICPATE IN REHEARSALS
- VISIT MAIN EFFORT TASK FORCE
- BACKBRIEF MVR CDR
- REFINE TARGETS WITH BDE S-2
- QUARTERBACK FIRES--THINK AHEAD
- UPHOLD ACCURACY STANDARDS

ROLE OF THE REINFORCING CDR

- ATTEND BDE MISSION ANALYSIS BRIEF
- PARTICIPATE IN BDE WARGAME
- PARTICPATE IN REHEARSALS
- BACKBRIEF FSCOORD & MVR CDR
- QUARTERBACK FIRES--THINK AHEAD
- UPHOLD ACCURACY STANDARDS
- DEFINE YOUR ROLE: FIGHT FROM BDE TOC? DEEP FIGHT? CAS? SEAD?
- BE ACTIVE IN THE RADAR AND ZONE PLAN--YOUR PCI!
- COUNTERFIRE BATTLE DRILL, FOCUS ON ATF TIMES

FIRE SUPPORT CHALLENGES

- **REDUCED FIRE SUPPORT ASSETS**
- **LIMITED ABILITY TO SEE DEEP**
- **COMPLEX, FRAGILE, COMPARTMENTED DIGITAL COMMO SYSTEM**
- **MULTIPLE FOR CALLS vs VOICE NETS**
- **SUB STANDARD TARGET ACQN DEVICES**
- **FFE MENTALITY EMBEDDED IN LEADERS**

DON'T LOOK FOR TECHNICAL EXCUSES -- LOOK FOR TACTICAL SOLUTIONS. PREPARE YOUR UNIT WITH BATTLE FOCUSED TRAINING

SOPs YOU NEED

- **SOPs FACILITATE EXECUTION--EXECUTION WINS!**
  - **WRITE AN SOP ON HOW YOU EXECUTE ATTACK, DEFEND, MTC**
  - **WRITE AN SOP ON HOW YOU PROCESS FIRE MISSIONS (V&D)**
  - **WRITE AN SOP ON USE OF GROUPS, MARKING, PRIORITY TARGETS**
  - **WRITE AN SOP ON USE OF VOICE FIRE ORDERS, COMMANDS**
  - **USE DOCTRINAL METHODS TO CALL FOR FIRE (V&D)**
  - **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE FSCOORD? BDE FSO? TF FSO? BN FDO?**
  - **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF COLTS? CO FSOs? PLT/BATTERY FDOs?**
  - **DECIDE ON THE NEXT MISSION WHILE FIRING THE CURRENT MISS**
  - ***MA*** ***UP FOR NTC***

TRAIN YOUR UNIT TO PROVIDE FIRES IN A TACTICAL SETTING--NOT A TECHNICAL ONE!

WEREWOLVES

The brutes that wear our form and face, The werewolves of the human race.

- Longfellow